

## **Nikko Asset Management Co. Ltd. Press Release**

**Nikko AM has signed a statement of support for the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs). Produced and disseminated by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Global Compact, the Principles present seven steps that business and other sectors can take to advance and empower women. As one aspect of its efforts to foster a diverse and inclusive workforce, Nikko AM's support for WEPs aims to deepen employee understanding of and respect for diversity and thereby nurture innovative approaches to meet its clients' needs. Junichi Sayato, Executive Deputy President of Nikko AM, said, "We signed because nurturing a diverse workforce is essential to our business, to effectively serve our clients. Diversity is indeed one of our Firm's core values, as identified by employees through a bottom up assessment and fully supported by management. The empowerment of women is a core aspect of this commitment, and we look forward to working with WEPs to realize it.**